The allegations that AIR and Doordarshan discriminate against the leaders of Left Front and State Ministers in terms of coverage are unfounded.

As news organisations, both AIR and Doordarshan adhere to the news policy and guidelines prepared by the Advisory Committee on Official Media and present news|programme in an objective, balanced and factual manner. The view points of the ruling party as well as that of the opposition are reported. The deciding factor for inclusion of items in the news is their newsworthiness.

As regards the special programme prepared by Shri M. J. Akbar and telecast on 28-12-1986, this programme included statements from the Chief Minister, West Bengal and other state leaders.

It is also not correct to say that while the Prime Minister's announcement of allocations to West Bengal was repeatedly broadcast|telecast the Chief Minister's contradiction of the Prime Minister's statistics of allocations and grants to West Bengal was not mentioned.

Statistics of break-down of the allocations and grants to West Bengal as given by the Prime Minister was noticed both by AIR and Doordarshan in a fair, objective and balanced manner. The Chief Minister's rejoinder was used in news bulletins by AIR, Calcutta, four times. On Doordarshan also, the West Bengal Chief Minister's contradiction of the Prime Minister's announcements and how much the State actually received from the Centre was telecast in the Focus programme entitled 'West Bengal at Cross Road' telecast on 28-12-1986.

**Repeated telecast of sanctions to West Bengal**

2633. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE. Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently (September, 1986), there was repeated Television and All India Radio broadcasting of the Prime Minister's statistics regarding financial grants and sanctions to the West Bengal State Government, while West Bengal's Chief Minister's contradiction with the statistics about how much the State actually received from the Centre was not broadcast even once; and

(b) if not, the answer to (a) in the negative, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Statistical break-down of the allocation and grants to West Bengal as given by the Prime Minister was noticed by All India Radio and Doordarshan in a fair, objective and balanced manner.

The Chief Minister's rejoinders were also used in the news bulletins by All India Radio, Calcutta on four occasions as and when these were made available.

The important announcement relating to package of economic assistance to West Bengal was telecast in both national bulletins and Calcutta regional bulletin on Doordarshan. Later on, a report on "Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi's visit to West Bengal" was telecast in which also Prime Minister's announcement of financial grant to the West Bengal Government was noticed. The West Bengal Chief Minister Mr. Jyoti Basu's contradiction of the Prime Minister's announcement and how much the states actually received from the Centre was telecast later on in the Focus Programme entitled "West Bengal at Cross Road" which was telecast on 28-12-1986.

**Concessions given to the Industrialists**

2634. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total value of concessions given to the industrialists and exporters through Central budgets for 1985-86 and 1986-87, including tax remission and others; and

(b) what is the estimated loss to the State exchequer on this account?